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THE UNION FOREVER!

ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS!

YOUR COUNTRY IS IN PERIL.

Let every Man that has the Arm and Nerve for a SOLDIER Fly to the Rescue.

Loyal Men of Western Virginia Join Now!

Company "A" ("The Rough and Ready Guards") of the **First Regiment of West Virginia Volunteer Infantry** is presently seeking worthy men to follow the Stars and Stripes once again, for the honor of the Union and the glory of the Mountain State. If you are interested in Civil War reenacting and would like more information or to enlist now, see one of our recruiting officers.

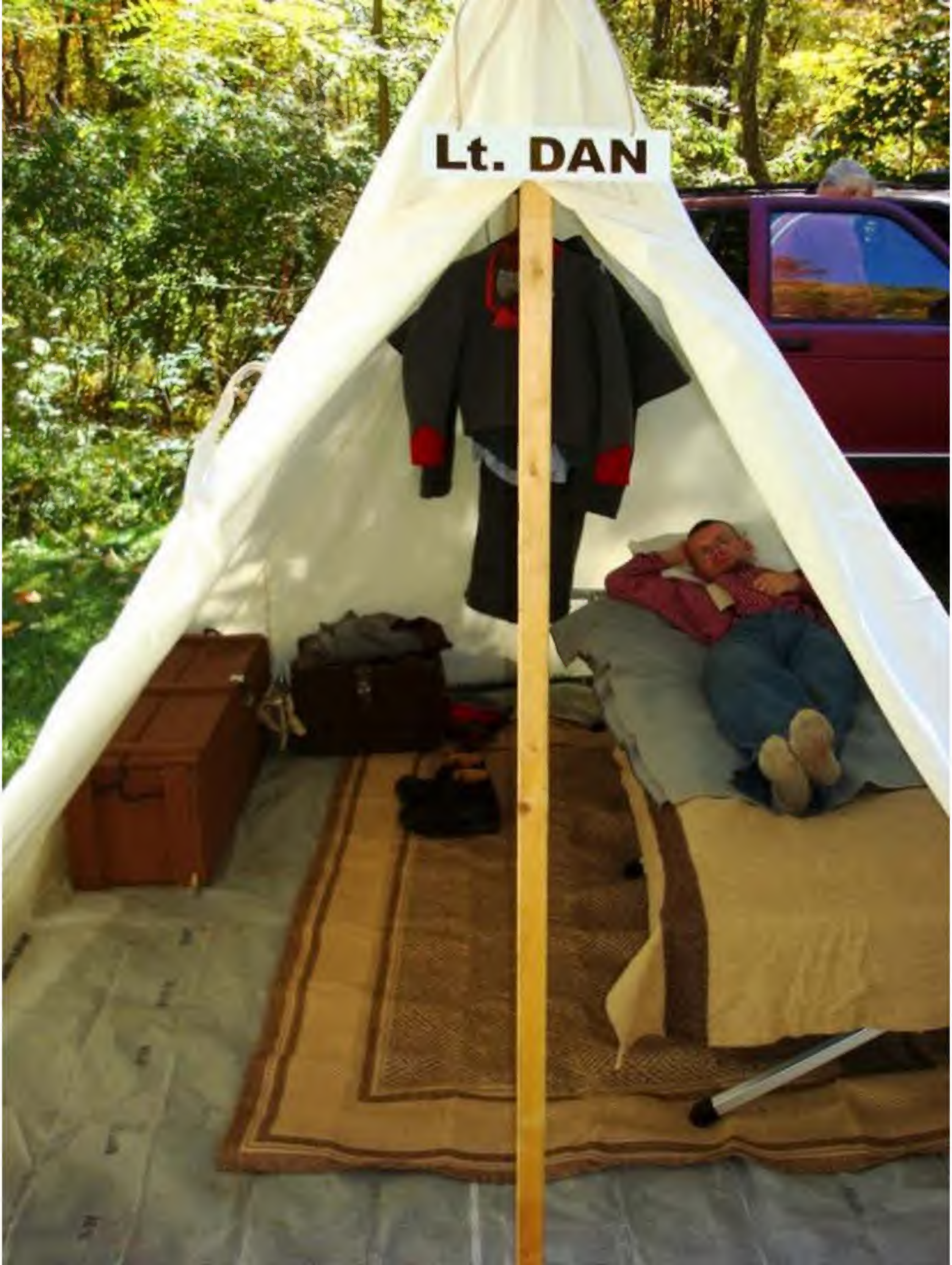

Bloody Mountain
Battlefield


BLACK POWDER
SPORTING


PUMPH

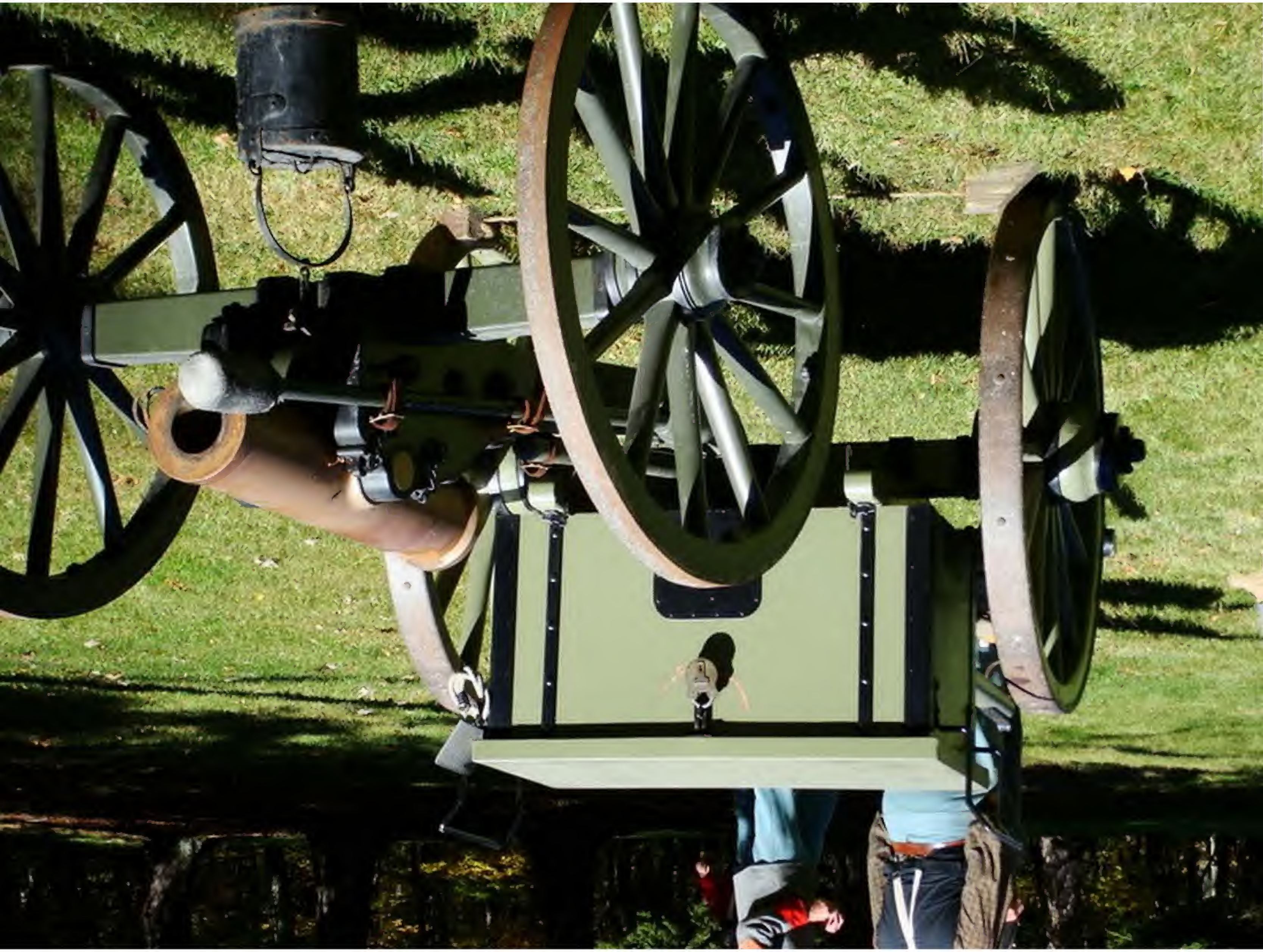

REGISTRATION


XLS


Lt. DAN


LIEUT. HENRY HENDERS
COMMANDED COE IN THE LAST CHARGE
THAT THE 10TH VA. VOL. INF. MADE
THAT BROKE THE CONFEDERATE LINE
AT THE BLOODY ANGLE WHERE
SO MANY OF THE BRAVE MEN
OF BOTH ARMIES FELL
NOVEMBER


JOHN D. BAXTER




CHAPMAN'S
BATTERY C.S.A


Civil War Re-enactment Photos
FOR SALE
Photos
By
MEMBER
22nd Virginia Infantry
Letteer
8X10--15.00
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THE BATTLE AT DROOP MOUNTAIN

★ ★ ★

NOVEMBER 6, 1863

Nearly five months after West Virginia was admitted into the Union, the Confederate army of Brigadier General John Echols still occupied the prosperous Greenbrier Valley region of the new state. From its headquarters in Lewisburg, his army was the foremost defense of the Virginia Tennessee Railroad, an important Confederate supply line in southwest Virginia.

On August 26 and 27, 1863, the Confederate army had successfully repulsed an attack at White Sulphur Springs by the Federal Army of Brigadier General William W. Averell. In early November Echols learned that General Averell had left his headquarters in Beverly, West Virginia, and was again moving south toward the railroad. Confederate outposts in Pocahontas County tried to slow the advance. General Echols marched his army north, all through the night, to Droop Mountain to reinforce them.

General William W. Averell

The reinforcements arrived just in time, for General Averell began his attack early. Throughout the morning, Echols' outnumbered Confederate army held the high ground and blocked the highway with artillery, but in the afternoon was overwhelmed by the crushing advance of Federal infantry on his left flank. Following the collapse of his lines, General Echols retreated south into Virginia with the remnants of his command. Federal troops occupied Lewisburg on November 7, 1863, but being burdened by prisoners and captured livestock, General Averell elected to return to his headquarters in Beverly, waiting until early December to lead a third, and ultimately successful, attack on the vital railroad. Operations in the Shenandoah Valley in the spring in 1864 drew remaining Confederate troops out of West Virginia, thus leaving the new state securely under the control of the Federal government for the remainder of the War.

With more than 400 casualties, (140 Union and approximately 275 Confederate) the Battle at Droop Mountain was one of the last significant Civil War battles in West Virginia.

General John Echols

Map Legend: ★ = You Are Here

General William W. Averell

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Brigadier Genera
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Virginia-Tennesse

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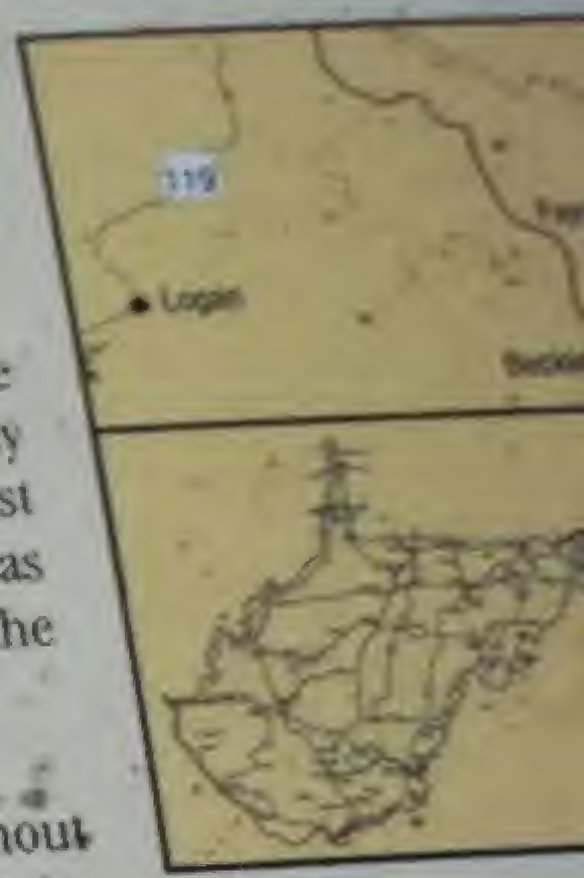

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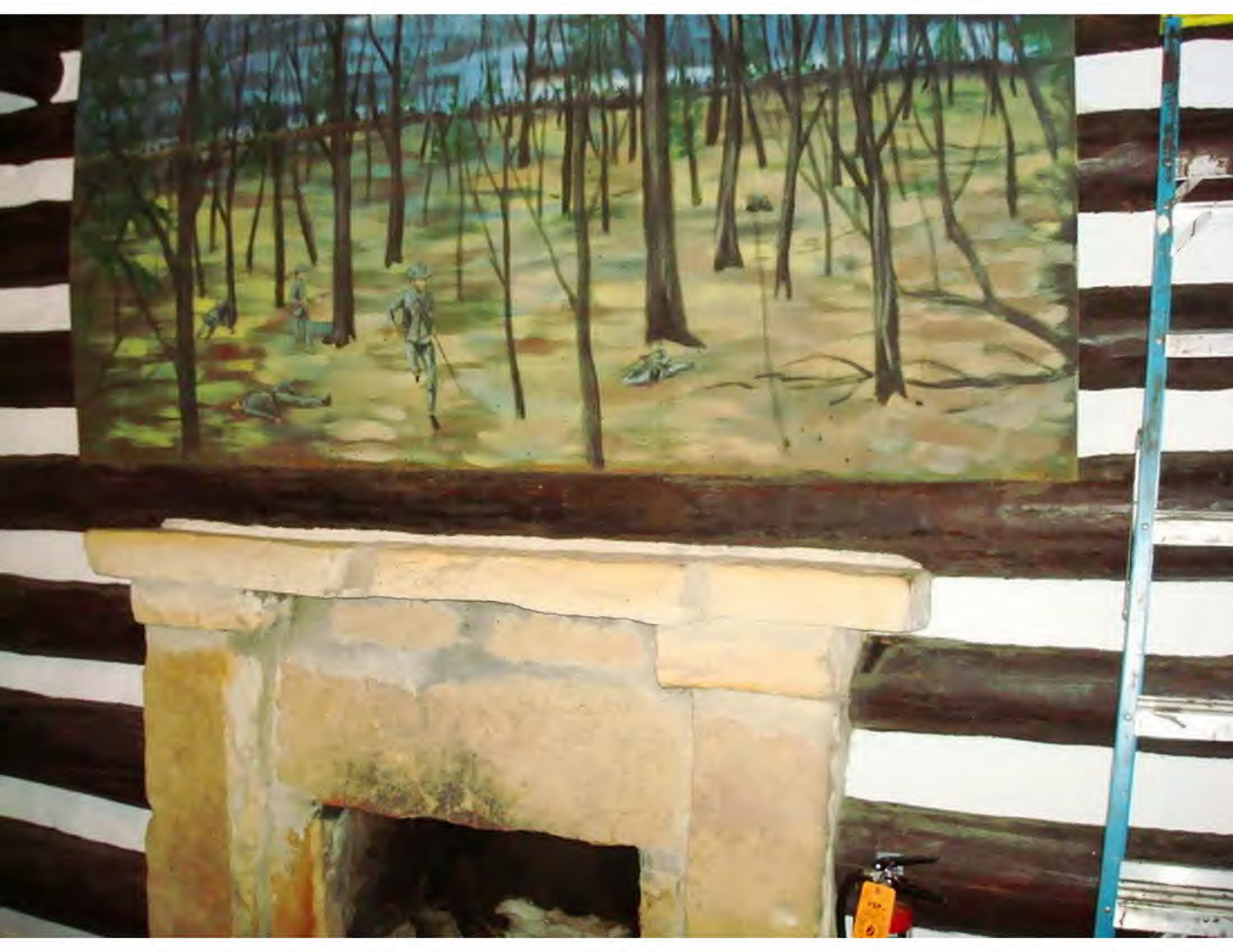
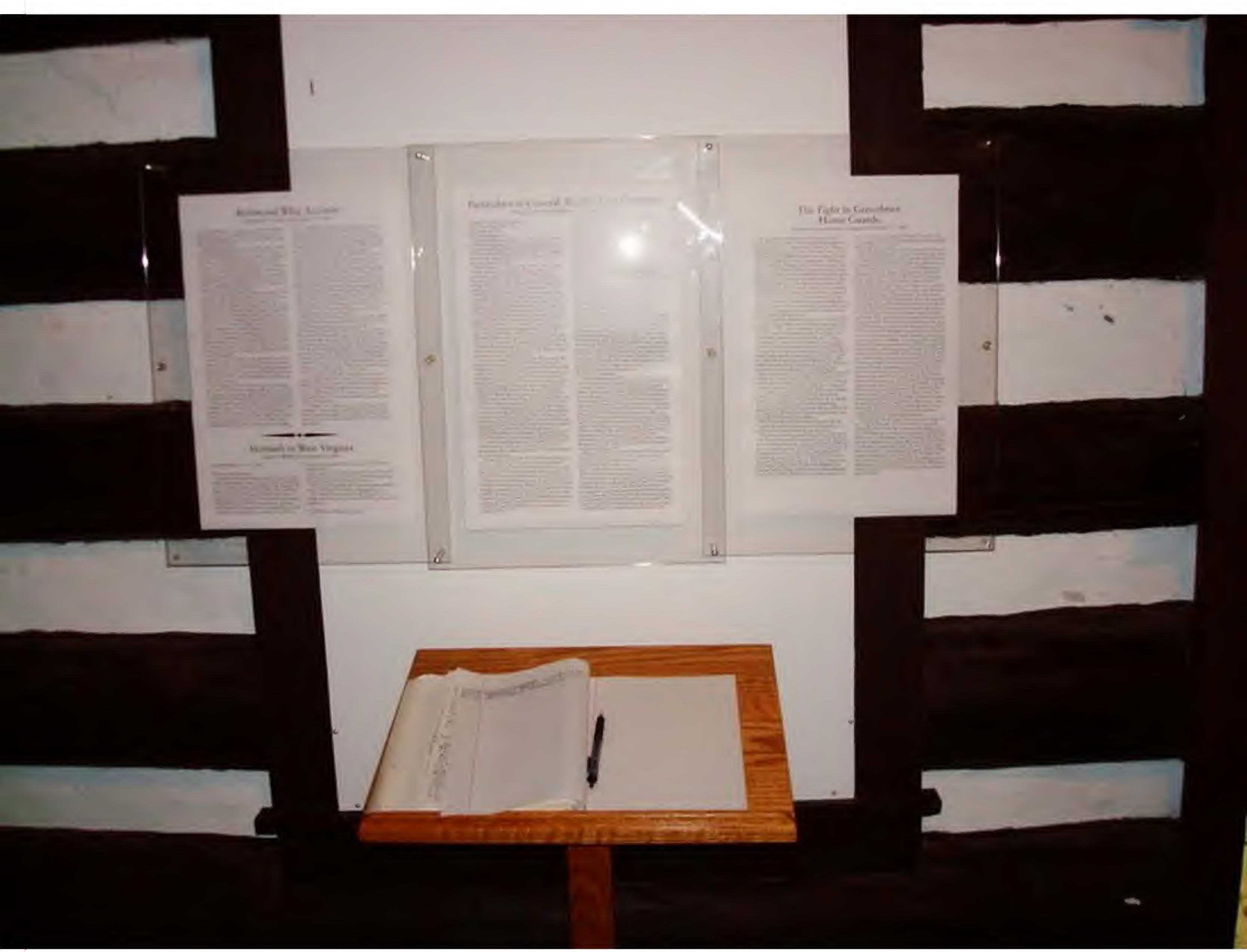



FSP
2008


The Fight to Consolidate
Home Guards


Fourth Separate Brigade
5th Army Corps
U.S.A.
1st Brigade
Army of Southwest Virginia
C.S.A.


The victory was decisive and the enemy's retreat became a total rout.
So far as the beneficial results of the expedition to the enemy can be estimated, they amount to nothing.

1st Brigade
Army of Southwest Virginia
C.S.A.

Headquarters
in Lewisburg

2,500 officers and men
engaged at
Droop Mountain

Brigadier General
John Echols

Echols' Brigade
Col. George S. Patton

Jackson's Brigade
Col. William L. Jackson

Ferguson's Brigade
Col. Milton J. Ferguson

22nd Virginia Infantry
Maj. Robert A. Bailey

19th Virginia Cavalry
Lt. Col. William E. Thompson

Virginia Cavalry

14th Virginia Cavalry
Col. James A. Cochran

16th Virginia Cavalry
Maj. James H. Alderson

Fourth Separate Brigade
8th Army Corps
U.S.A.

Headquarters
in Beverly

3,855 officers and men
August 31, 1863

Brigadier General
William W. Averell

2nd West Virginia
Mounted Infantry
Lt. Col. Alexander Scott

3rd West Virginia
Mounted Infantry
Lt. Col. Francis W.
Thompson

8th West Virginia
Mounted Infantry
Col. John H. Oley

14th Pennsylvania
Cavalry
Col. James M.
Schoonmaker

Gibson's
Independent
Cavalry Battalion
Major Thomas Gibson

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14th Pennsylvania
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Col. James M.
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Gibson's
Independent
Cavalry Battalion
Major Thomas Gibson

10th West Virginia
Volunteer Infantry
Col. Thomas M. Harris

28th Ohio
Volunteer Infantry
Col. Augustus Moor

1st West Virginia
Light Artillery

Battery B
Capt. John V. Kempster

Battery G
Capt. Cornelius C. Vinton

68th New York
Infantry,
Signal Corps
Detachment
Capt. Evan A. Thomas

C.S.A.

Headquart
in Lewisbu

2,500 offic
engaged at
Droop Mou

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[illegible] officers and men
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Col. George S. Patton

Jackson's Brigade
Col. William L. Jackson

Ferguson's Brigade
Col. Milton J. Ferguson

22nd Virginia Infantry
Maj. Robert A. Baker

23rd Battalion
Virginia Infantry
(Derrick's Battalion)
Maj. William Browne

26th Battalion
Virginia Infantry
(Edgar's Battalion)
Lt. Col. George M. Edgar
Detached to Lewis's Corps

Virginia Light Artillery
(Chapman's Company)
Capt. George B. Chapman

19th Virginia Cavalry
Lt. Col. William P. Thompson

20th Virginia Cavalry
Col. William W. Arnold

Virginia Horse Artillery
(Lurty's Company)
Capt. William S. Lurty

14th Virginia Cavalry
Col. James A. Cochran

14th Virginia Cavalry
Maj. James H. Nounnan
Detached to Lewisburg

Virginia Horse Artillery
(Jackson's Battery)
Capt. Thomas E. Jackson

The Battle at Droop Mountain

NEARLY FIVE MONTHS after West Virginia was admitted into the Union, the Confederate army of Brigadier General John Echols still occupied the prosperous Greenbrier Valley region of the new state. From its headquarters in Lewisburg, his army was the foremost defense of the Virginia-Tennessee Railroad, an important Confederate supply line in southwest Virginia.

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Confederate outposts in Pocahontas County tried to slow the advance. General Echols marched his army north, all through the night, to Droop Mountain to re-enforce them.

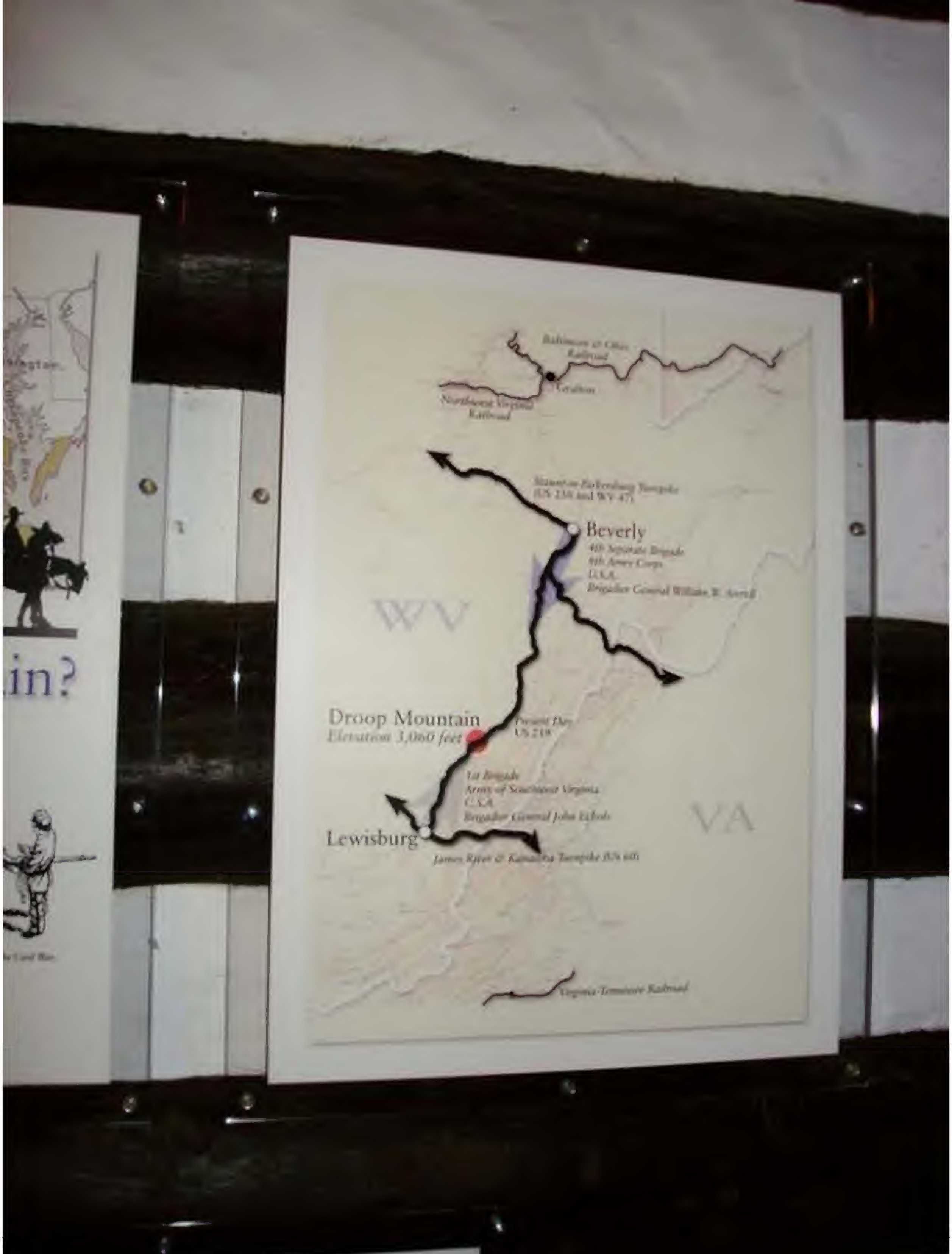
The reinforcements arrived just in time, as General Averell began his attack early [illegible] the morning. Echols' [illegible] Confederate army held the [illegible] and blocked the highway with [illegible] in the afternoon was [illegible] by the crushing advance of [illegible] on his left flank. [illegible] collapse of his lines, General [illegible] south into Virginia [illegible] of his command. Federal [illegible] occupied Lewisburg on November 7, but being burdened by prisoners and captured livestock, General Averell elected to return to his headquarters in Beverly, waiting until early December to lead a third, and ultimately successful attack on the vital railroad. Operations in the Shenandoah Valley in the spring of 1864 drew remaining Confederate troops out of West Virginia, thus leaving the new state securely under the control of the Federal government for the remainder of the war.

With nearly 400 casualties (140 U.S. and approximately 275 Confederate) the battle at Droop Mountain was one of the largest Civil War battles in West Virginia—and the last significant one.

NOTE:
This map was drawn from the viewpoint of Gen. Averell's Union army which was [illegible]

"Poor me, with shock, Morris & Hubbard of our old company, together with other true friends & gallant soldiers now 'sleep their last sleep' on Droop Mountain. My loss is great. I mourn sincerely."

Lt. Colonel Andrew R. Barbee,
22nd Virginia Infantry


Beverly
Droop Mountain
Elevation 3,060 feet
Lewisburg
WV
VA

Why Droop Mountain?

ROADS WERE CRITICAL to movement of the artillery and supply wagons necessary to support armies. Droop Mountain was a high ridge on the main north/south road connecting two major east/west crossings of the Alleghenies.

Long before the arrival of white settlers, [illegible] used the mountain's level top as a shortcut between the Little Levels of Hillsboro and the Big Levels of Greenbrier.

Union armies to the north were certain to [illegible] the mountain in any effort to reach Confederate forces headquartered [illegible].

With extensive views to the north and to the south, the summit of Droop Mountain was an ideal defensive position on the most important travel route through the region.

Illustration from Arms and Equipment of the Civil War, by Jack Coggins, Dover Publications


MAP
BATTLE FIELD
DROOP MOUNTAIN
N


Artillery
Smoothbore guns
Rifled guns


Cavalry


Infa


Infantry

Infantry

Weapons

The basic infantry weapon of the Civil War was the rifled musket. This had been developed and introduced into several armies during the preceding decade, and its effects were already making themselves felt on the battlefield. But while rifles had been used by the British and French in the Crimea, and by the French and the Austrians in Italy, the Civil War was the first great conflict in which the combination of an accurate weapon and marksmanship of a high order forced radical changes in tactical formations.

U.S. Model 1861 Rifle-Musket

Sharps breech-loading rifle

Colt's Army revolver

The New-York Times.


Personal Items


Cont. Infantry
Cont. Artillery
C.S.A. Coat Button
V.M.I. Cadet
Virginia State Seal
U.S. Eagle Cuff Button
Unidentified
Cont. Officer's Star
Plain Colonial Buttons
U.S. Eagle Coat Button


US

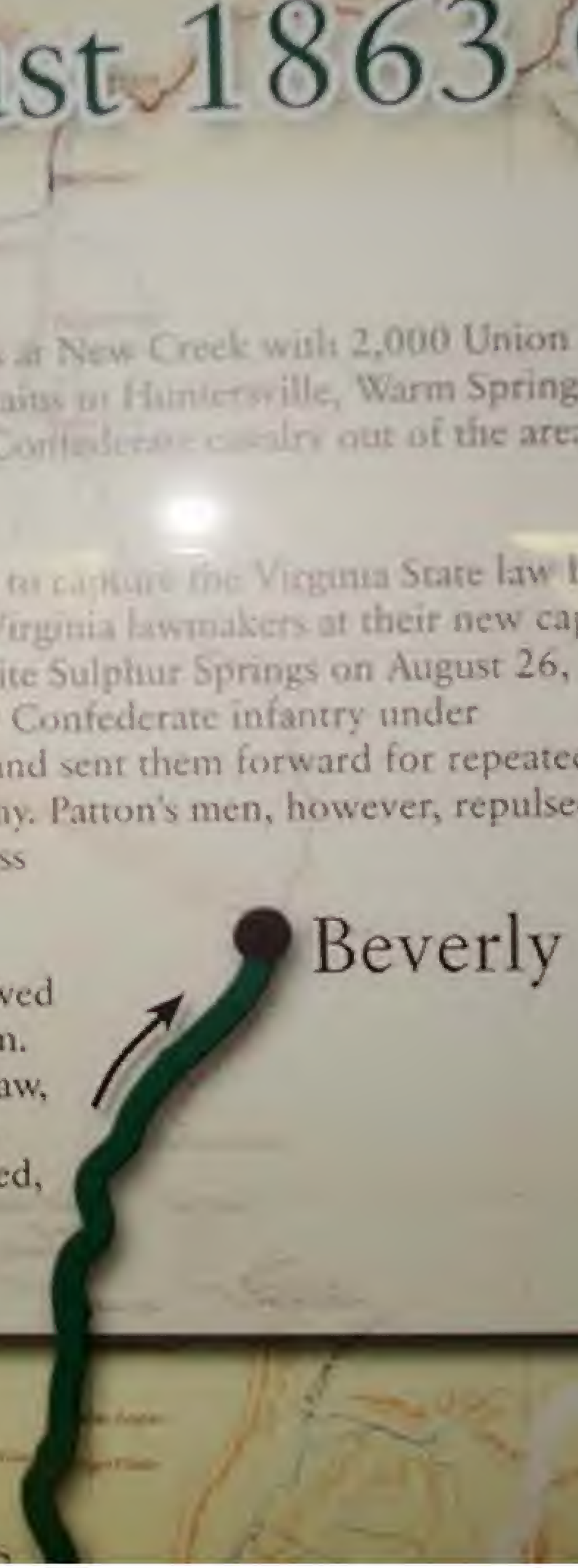
Averell's August 1863 Campaig

Battle of Rocky Gap: August 26–27, 1863

In August 1863 General Averell left his headquarters at New Creek with 2,000 Union cavalry. Moving south through the Allegheny Mountains to Huntersville, Warm Springs, and Callaghan, his troopers pushed small groups of Confederate cavalry out of the area and destroyed a saltpeter works on Jackson River.

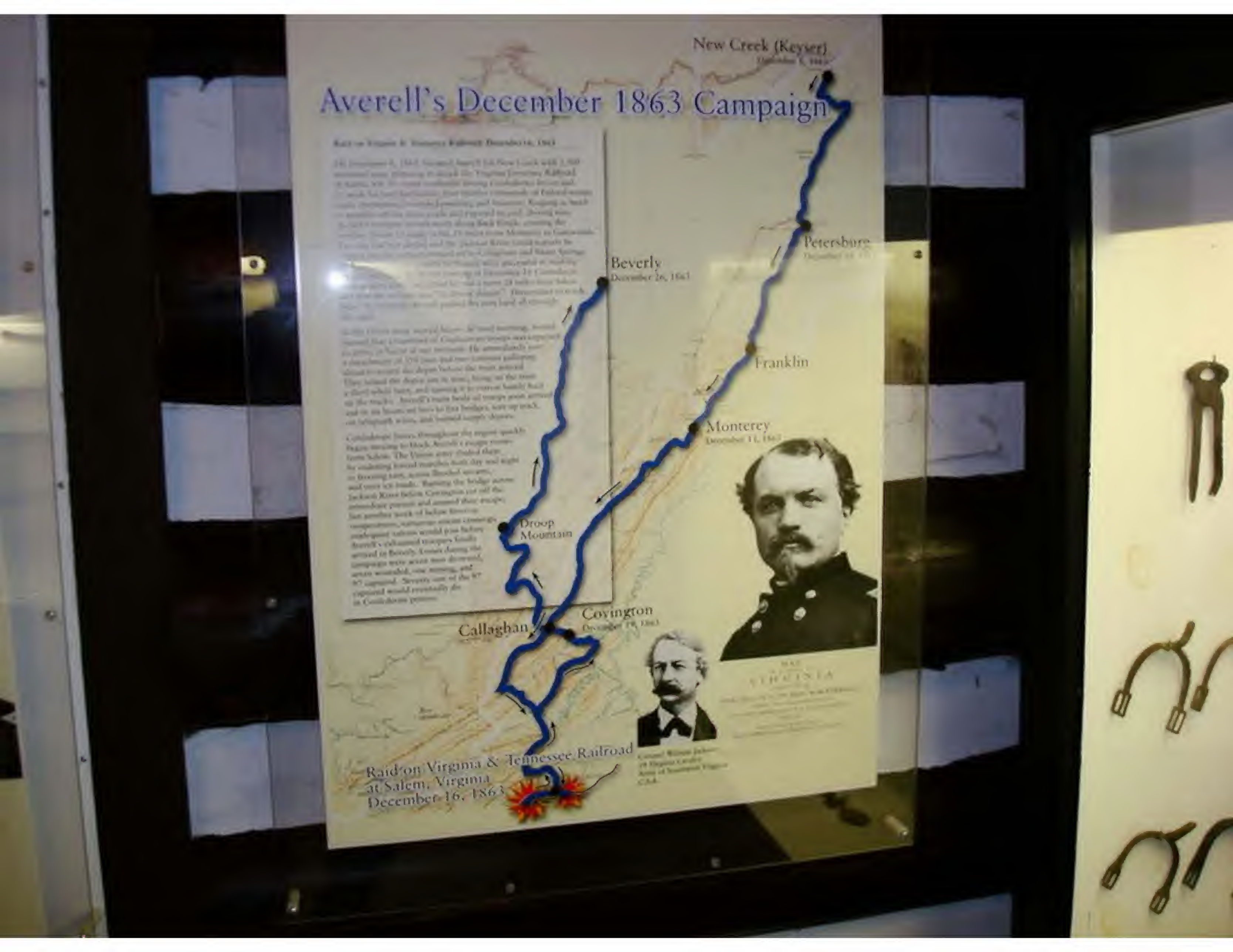
Averell then turned west towards Lewisburg, hoping to capture the Virginia State law library housed there and which was much desired by West Virginia lawmakers at their new capitol in Wheeling. As the Union troopers approached White Sulphur Springs on August 26, they found the road blocked at Rocky Gap by 1,900 Confederate infantry under Col. George S. Patton. Averell dismounted his men and sent them forward for repeated attacks in a fierce battle that raged throughout the day. Patton's men, however, repulsed every assault and Confederate line held until darkness ended the fighting.

Each side slept on the field, and the battle was renewed in the morning. Again the Confederate line held firm. By noon General Averell ordered his men to withdraw, leading them north to safety at Beverly. Union army casualties at Rocky Gap were 26 killed, 125 wounded, and 67 missing. Confederate losses were 20 killed, 129 wounded, and 13 missing.

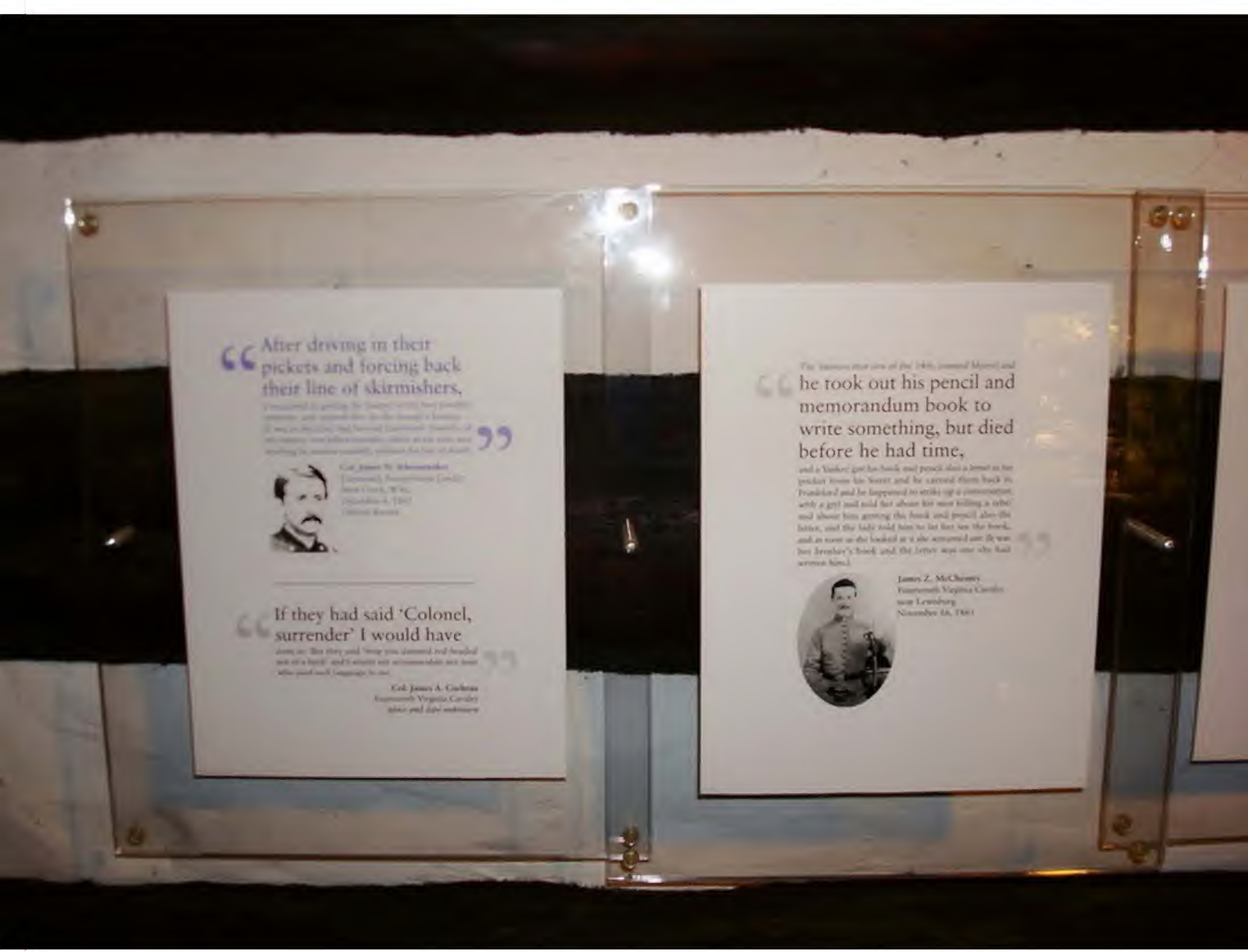



Petersburg
Beverly
Franklin
Big Springs
Monterey
Huntersville
Warm Springs
Callaghan
Battle of Rocky Gap
(White Sulphur Springs)
August 26–27, 1863
Colonel George S. Patton
22nd Virginia Infantry
Army of Southwestern Virginia
C.S.A.
VIRGINIA


Averell's November 1863 Campaign
New Creek (Keyser)
Petersburg
Franklin
Monterey
Huttonsville
Battle of
Droop Mountain
November 6, 1863
Lewisburg
Callaghan
White
Sulphur
Springs


Averell's December 1863 Campaign
New Creek (Keyser)
Petersburg
Beverly
December 26, 1863
Franklin
Monterey
Droop Mountain
Covington
Callaghan
Raid on Virginia & Tennessee Railroad
at Salem, Virginia
December 16, 1863


The enemy knew his advantage and pressed it with great vigor. …
During the summer of 1863 my brother Adam, a boy less than sixteen years
Now the wildest scene
the whole road was blocked with prisoners.


After driving in their pickets and forcing back their line of skirmishers,
If they had said 'Colonel, surrender' I would have
he took out his pencil and memorandum book to write something, but died before he had time,
James Z. McChesney

he took out his pencil and memorandum book to write something, but died before he had time,

James Z. McChesney
Fourteenth Virginia Cavalry
near Lewisburg
November 16, 1863

severe shelling and an enfilading fire of musketry,

Col. William L. Jackson
Nineteenth Virginia Cavalry
commanding Brigade
Headquarters
near Union, W.Va.
November 8, 1863
Official Record

The majority of my command, officers and men, behaved with great